The Lions' Pride

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Interfaith dialogue yields few answers

By Owen Robertson
Staff Writer

On March 20, in the Greenfelder-Denlinger Boardroom, a dialogue was held between representatives of Catholicism, Judaism and Islam.

"A feast for our minds and our hearts" said Dr. Arthur F. Kirk, Jr. President of Saint Leo University. Speaking about hosting the discussion. "A new departure for the Center of Catholic Jewish Studies, first to include a member of Islam."

The 45 minutes of the meeting was spent in endless verbose greetings and platitudes. Finally, Father Stephan Brown provided a brief welcome to the religious communities saying "Great respect in coming together in dialogue" regarding the three faiths.

The main question of the interfaith dialogue was; should Islam look to its monotheistic partners as models for successful integration into American religious life or, given the dynamics of the 21st century, should it demand a different approach in the creation of an American expression of Islam?

The first speaker, Rabbi A. James Rudin, provided a historical perspective in the first portion of his speech, retracing the importance of religion in the United States. Rudin briefly provided the history of religious conflict in the United States for Catholics and Jewish believers. Concluding the first portion of his speech about the Second Vatican Council in 1965, where leaders of Judaism and Catholicism came together to discuss how their faiths could work together and meld into the religious landscape of the United States.

"Every generation must rethink, recast, redo and reestablish the role of religion in America." said Rudin but he pointed out that very often those not of the dominate faith in the United States are asked "can you be Catholic or Jewish and an American?" Rudin provided the answer by looking to pluralism, that every "group" has a contribution to make to society, be they Catholic, Jewish, or Islamic.

Rabbi Rudin's last portion of his speech asked the difficult question "Can we (Catholicism, Judaism, and Islam) survive, prosper or thrive in America or do we settle for Mickey Mouse, MTV or McDonalds in lieu of our faith." According to Rudin, the people of non-dominate faiths have been impacted by living in the United States, as well as they too have impacted American culture. The question for Rabbi Rudin is what will be "the impact of Islam on America and America's impact on it?"

Dr. Eugene Fisher, Former Associate Director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; Distinguished Professor of Catholic-Jewish Studies, Saint Leo University, represented the Catholic point of view for the second part of the discussion. He offered that the American followers of Islam should have hope regarding their religious persecution by looking to the past persecution of Catholics and Jews in the United States.

"Catholic, Jewish and Muslims all have a very high shared understanding of social issues and that Catholics and Jews have a shared commonality between them in their religious integration experience" said Fisher.

Dr. Fisher, like Rabbi Rudin before him, also pointed out the value of pluralism within the Catholic faith stating the "necessity of religious pluralism is now part of Catholic teachings."

This historical background for the integration of Catholicism and Judaism into American culture provided a solid starting place for the dialogue.

Daisy Kahn, the third and final speaker for the discussion, is the Executive Director of the American Society for Muslim Advancement (ASMA). Her speech provided a lighter approach to the question posed by the discussion, relying less on history and more on current views and actions.

"Tearing down walls of prejudice is really hard work" Kahn said "Shaping Islamic religion in America is a daunting task."

To further the dialogue, Kahn made the claim that "Islamic values and American values are the same. The issue is not the values but the basis of the values." Boldly moving forward, she then made the statement that "Islam looks to Judaism (in America) as a model of how to change." However, she added that "American Islam cannot be just created for in this modern age there is a global judgment that occurs."

Kahn feels that prior to 9/11 there were great strides in interfaith tolerance and understanding of American Muslims, however, after that day all the work of many years changed overnight.

American Muslims were faced with the question of how can you be a follower of Islam and an American. Kahn says the answer is in the youth of American Islam. It is through them that new leaders of Islam will be found who can provide the dual identity of being American and being a follower of Islam.

Dr. Fisher, during his speech, offered some insight into this question as well pointing out that "Muslims today are make some of the strongest protests about the killing of civilians and are some of the most loudly patriotic."

In the end, however, the dialogue didn't truly provide any strong answers or resolution to the question. The organizers of this interfaith discussion hopefully will host another gathering of minds to discuss this truly pressing issue.

March: Celebrating Women's History

By Ashley Taylor
Staff Writer

March Madness and the NCAA championships were some of the highlight of the month. So was Saint Patrick's Day and Mardi Gras, events full of partying and having a good time. But most people tend to forget another significant part of the month and that is Women's History Month. This month highlights all of women's contributions to American society.

Now why is this an important event? Throughout history, women have not always had equal rights with men. They weren't treated very fairly and they were used for only few purposes; to stay in the house, cook, clean, and bear children. It wasn't just that women were confined to their homes, but also women were warned not to work outside of their homes and if they did they would be arrested. Women did work while men went off to war, but then after the wars, men perceived women as being competition rather than equals. They started rebelling against women workers, thus forcing them to do their tasks in the house. The women's suffrage movement began to ensue as the women fought for equality. Women can thank Susan B. Anthony for participating in the suffrage movement as well as countless others. Frederick Douglas, who was an black abolitionist, also supported the women during the suffrage movement.

Michelle Obama, is one of the leading ladies we need to recognize, not only because she is the President's wife, but because she is a woman who is standing by her husband's side when President Obama is faced with accusations and criticism. Michelle Obama has helped children try and overcome obesity by healthy eating. And on top of that, she is raising two beautiful girls who will become successful women in the future.

If you haven't done so already, take the time to study about the leading woman during Women's History Month, as women's history is an important part of the United States cultural identity.

Opinions

Saint Leo's expansion from a graduating senior's perspective

By Brooke King
Entertainment Editor

As an outgoing senior, I have been asked many times by my professors about the changes that have been made to Saint Leo University and what my opinion is on the improvements of my school, the School of Arts and Sciences. My answer is: I cannot help, but be worried and baffled at what is going on around campus.

The incoming freshmen class, like most recent years, is going to be exponentially larger, creating changes to campus to accommodate and strengthen their education experience. As anyone can see when they look around the campus, changes are being made, like new residence halls, better grounds maintenance, etc. However, what does all this mean and how is it going to effect the students who are not graduating, but ultimately have a few more years left at Saint Leo?

When I started my education experience at Saint Leo, the Student Activity Fee was a little more than $90, but now the fee has gone up to over $100. If the Saint Leo student population gets bigger, you can expect that the Student Activity Fee is going to get exponentially bigger as well. In congruence with that hike in price, the tuition is going to go up as well. Following the same logic that the increase in freshman will increase monetary values, the increase in students will also increase class sizes. So yes, you will be fighting for a seat in an entry-level class now because the influx of freshman into general education classes. Therefore, if you thought you could wait until the last minute to register for classes, you might want to think again and register for them now, before the class is completely full. While upper division student are given precedence over freshman for courses, it is not always guaranteed that you will get a spot in the course.

As a student and possibly a teacher in the future, class size is a huge issue. As a student, I picked Saint Leo because their class sizes were so small and because as a student, a smaller class means you have a better academic relationship with your professors. Having small class sizes means that students can get the help they need and work in a open and casual environment that is not restricted by the confusion of too many students needing help, or let's face it, students being rude in class by talking or using their cell phones. While Saint Leo has a strict policy on class decorum, not all students adhere to it and not all professors catch those students. However, in a smaller classroom, this is less likely happen.

Let me break it down a little further for the current students. If Saint Leo continues to grow, parking (even with the new parking garage that is set to be completed in Fall 2012) is going to be tough. We all know that freshman hate to walk from Marion Snyder, and insist on driving their cars over to the main campus and take up the little parking we have left for commuters, faculty, and other students. Parking, unfortunately, will still be an issue and might be a bigger issue, since future incoming freshman classes are going to get larger.

However, the positive aspects for the future that everyone is looking for is, no surprise, splashed with contradiction. As an outgoing senior, I can offer some sort of Lord Byron version of hope that might temper your cynicism with a collective list of possibilities for which you can be sure was written with the same student cynicism. The food on campus might get better because the Caf now has to feed more people, but more likely than not that line for the Caf is going to get longer and a table inside the Caf a lot harder to find. However, library resources might get better, but you will have to wait for books you need or get your books weeks in advance before the freshman suck them into the vortex of their dorm room, never to be seen again. Even more exciting, with the incoming of freshman and tuition money, the school can pay off its loans for the business building, parking garage, and residence hall. So rest assured, your tuition is paying for the building you might not have a class in, the parking garage that you have to fight to get a parking spot in, and the residence hall that is probably going to go to freshman (seeing as no student in their right mind would pay for a full meal plan because the Caf food is atrocious).

If you're like me and you are a little worried about the large freshman class that is set to hit campus in the fall, you might want to reevaluate whether the Alumni Board, the Business Affairs office, or the Administration has your interests at heart when they approve the changes that are coming in the future for the student body. From my standpoint, academia seems to be turning into a lucrative business investment rather than an institution for higher learning. While there are many upsides to the expansion of Saint Leo and its student population, the downsides seem to outweigh any good. As a graduating senior, I feel for my fellow students and offer up these words of advice: hang in there, keep your head held high, and be the best student you can be. Even though Saint Leo is changing on the outside, the Core Values and camaraderie that exists in every student at this school is not like any other school in Florida and that is something for which you should be proud.

The Lions' Pride

(352) 588-8316
Student Activities Center, Office 106
33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574

Letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride should be no more than 500 words in length and should not include profane or slanderous language. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, spelling, and libel; as well as the right to publish or not. All submissions should be sent to **thelionspridenewspaper@gmail.com**. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship.

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OPINIONS

The scoop on KONY 2012: The Invisible Children Appeal

By Danielle Ferguson
Staff Writer

Unless the students of Saint Leo University have been nestled in a cave underground for the past month, then you have most definitely have heard of the worldwide controversy surrounding the brutal African war lord by name of Joseph Kony. Kony 2012 has been brought to the surface through a documentary film on the Invisible Children campaign, which has morphed into an internet sensation in the space of a fortnight racking up a YouTube tally surmounting 83 million views. Social networking sites like that of Facebook and Twitter have been newsfeeding and trending "StopKony2012", "Kony 2012," "Invisible Children," and "Cover the Night," but for most of us the background to this high publicity is still quite vague.

In basic terms, Joseph Kony has been leading a rebel army fighting the Ugandan government for around ten years. The Lord's Resistance army in which he is involved in has recently been a documented menace, guilty of brutal war crimes and kidnapping thousands of children and using them as soldiers, forced laborers and sex slaves. Horrific as it seems, the Kony current issue is a vile reality.

The reason why it has come to the surface recently is due solely to a man by name of Jason Russell who created a short film documentary on Invisible Children, Inc. released on March 5th, 2012. The purpose of the film is quite rightly to promote the charity's "Stop Kony" movement in order to have Kony arrested by December 2012, which is the time the campaign expires. As of present, the film is doing exactly what its initial intention was with widespread promotion of over 85 million views on YouTube and over 16.6 million views on Vimeo, not including the other viewings emanating from a central "Kony 2012" website operated by Invisible Children.

So what does the film entail? I strongly suggest you check it out; however, in general terms, it documents The Invisible Children Appeal's plans and efforts to arrest Joseph Kony. It describes Kony's brutal guerrilla warfare tactics with his rebel group Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the regions (Northern Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan) in which they have been employed. The website promoting the campaign describes how the film 'advocates curtailing compelled and coerced youth military service and the restoration of social order.' The Invisible Children charity has focused on obtaining the support of individuals worldwide in order to "help bring awareness of the horrific abuse and killing of children in the East and Central African countries at the hands of Kony and his leadership."

On top of the millions of viewers that have supported the film documentary, celebrities such as George Clooney, Rihanna, Taylor Swift, Angelina Jolie, Christina Milian, Nicki Minaj, Bill Gates, Kim Kardashian and Ryan Seacrest have also come on board for further widespread promotion and endorsed awareness against Kony. Along with this exposure, policy makers who have sufficient power to keep U.S. government officials in Africa (in order to work toward the capture of Kony) have also been enlisted with the likes of former U.S. President George W. Bush, his Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and U.S. Senator and former presidential candidate John Kerry.

When asked across campus, the over-riding consensus was in utter support of the campaign; one student, Nolan Coe Peek, even stated, "I feel very passionate about the issue. The fact is Joseph Kony is an indicted Ugandan war criminal and an International Criminal Court- one of the world's worst war lords as stated on the official site. Why he continues to wreck the lives of innocent children and is still not locked away is beyond me. I one hundred and ten percent support the international effort to arrest this man, disarm the LRA and bring the child soldiers home."

As part of the campaign, on April 20, 2012, The Invisible Children's Appeal is geared towards having supporters putting up posters promoting Kony 2012 in their hometowns. The Invisible Children and Kony 2012 appeal offers posters from an online shop in an attempt to gain wider recognition with social networking sites and media working towards an organization of advertising and campaign groups. They have also created action kits to help spread awareness that include campaign buttons, posters, bracelets and stickers. Already, a series of rallies have been planned in cities across the globe for this date (April 20), with the plan being for supporters of the anti-Kony and -LRA movement to gather and demonstrate public support for the campaign.

The Invisible Children appeal is something in which Saint Leo University has been heavily involved upon in recent years including the International Tourism Club (ITC) which collaborated with the freshman Student Government Union on a project to raise money for Invisible Children, Inc. A student involved stated, "After being made aware of the amazing efforts of Invisible Children Inc., I see it as incumbent on the ITC organization to have assisted in any way possible." For those Saint Leo students who would like to know more on the entire aspect including what the celebrities and policy makers have to say, all the background information, goals, how to purchase Kony 2012 merchandise, how to donate or get actively involved, or any other media questions revolving around such please visit http://www.kony2012.com. For those who haven't watched the YouTube movie, there is an official website with every detail of information involved in the pledge so students can also visit http://www.invisiblechildren.com.

Are you interested in becoming an editor or staff writer with *The Lions' Pride* for the 2012-2013 academic year?

Please contact Valerie Kasper:
Valerie.Kasper@saintleo.edu

FWS and non-work study students encouraged to apply!

Campus News

Fall Course Offerings: Think Business!

Involvement in the Donald R. Tapia School of Business extends well beyond educating to helping you prepare for a career – and life – after graduation. Not sure what professional path to follow? Talk to a faculty member. They have a lifetime of experience they're just waiting to share with you.

Are you Undecided, Curious, or Searching for a cool elective? Considering a degree in Business? Explore these Fall Course Offerings to learn more!

CMM 205: Oral Communication

Learn the skills to say what you mean, and mean what you say! Be effective. Increase your talk-ability. Create portfolio pieces for prospective employers.

The importance of oral communication skills today can't be overstated. In this era of economic-technological-social change, the ability to communicate effectively – public speaking, presentation, small group, interview, interpersonal settings – is a key element of success.

GBA 105: Introduction to Business

If you want to know why so many businesses exist, or why someone would want to go into business today, this is the course for you!

This introductory course covers a broad spectrum of diverse topics in the interesting field of business. You will gain valuable information to help you determine if business administration or management is the ideal major for you.

(The course instructor is a recognized industry leader. Learn from an expert in the field!)

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Do you desire a rewarding career, with excellent growth and earning potential, in a high-demand industry? Consider a future in health care management...a top-ranked career choice!

This course whets the appetite, providing a thorough – yet, practical – overview of the health care industry. Because of the size, importance, and complexity of the industry, this course is valuable to students considering health care careers and those whose interest is from a consumer, employer, or policy perspective.

HRA 335: Recruitment, Selection & Placement

Graduation comes sooner than you think. Is your resume ready? Did you know the average time an employer takes to review a resume is 15-30 seconds?

Whatever-wherever you work when you finish your degree, you'll have some interaction with HR and some responsibility to hire employees or be hired as an employee.

Get the inside scoop on legal, practical recruiting and selection best practices, including:

- What should I put in my resume if I want to make an impression on employers?
- How can I find the best employees to come work for me?
- Why do employers ask those crazy interview questions, and how should I answer them?
- What laws protect me from being passed over for a job?

IHT 105: Traveling the World for Fun and Profit

Do you love exploring different parts of the world? If so, consider registering for this course to learn about the different ways it could become your future career! The class will explore the basic tourism concepts and issues to facilitate the development of individual travel skills, demonstrate the dynamic interaction of tourism's various sectors and components, and develop an understanding of the many employment and business opportunities available within the industry on an international basis.

If you believe travel will play an integral part of your future personal and professional life, register today for IHT 105: Traveling the World for Fun and Profit!

IHT 220: Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism Management

Interested in owning a hotel, restaurant, or resort? What about event management or tour operations?

Begin your career in hospitality or tourism management with this course, providing an overview of the tourism industry and the history, primary characteristics, and career opportunities of its four main operational sectors: transportation, attractions, destinations, and food and beverage.

If being part of a rewarding, service-based industry is of interest to you, register today for IHT 220: Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism Management. Start down the path to a career in the world's largest industry!

MKT 308: Personal Selling

Want to learn how to understand what people will say before they say it?

This course will help students "read" body language and react to it. Presentations are taped throughout class to better understand body language and help you improve your presentation skills. Prerequisite: MKT 301

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Do you absolutely LOVE sports? Do you want to work in a $500 billion dollar industry?

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Discover the variety of areas the sport business industry offers in professional, amateur, and non-profit sports.

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YES, a career in sport is possible without being on the field or court! Register for SPB 101: Introduction to Sport Business TODAY!

Campus News

New Course Offerings
SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIMINAL GANGS IN THE UNITED STATES
April 30 - May 3, 2012

Course Description:

This course will examine the origin of Gangs in the United States and their destructive impact on society. It will provide an overview of the three principal groups of gangs as recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice: National Street Gangs, Prison Gangs, and Outlaw Motorcycle Club Gangs. A special emphasis will be placed on gangs that impact the State of Florida.

The Department of Criminal Justice of Saint Leo University is offering a 4-day course on the main campus on the topic of Criminal Gangs in the United States. This course is being offered for Certificate only, Undergraduate and Graduate Credit.

For additional information on this course, please contact Professor Barry Glover, barry.glover@saintleo.edu, 813-310-4365.

INTERNATIONAL SEX TRAFFICKING COURSE
May 7 - 10, 2012

The Department of Criminal Justice of Saint Leo University is offering a 4-day course on the main campus on the topic of International Sex Trafficking. This course is being offered for Certificate only, Undergraduate and Graduate Credit

This course is being taught by highly experienced law enforcement investigators and scholars in the field of International Sex Trafficking.

This course will be offered for the 2012 Summer Semester and is available for a Certificate of Completion, Undergraduate (CRM 367) 3 credit hours, or Graduate (CRJ 500 – Special Topics) 3 credit hours. The following tuition rates apply: Certificate only – $400, CRM 300 - $759, and CRJ 500 - $1185. Those attending this course for Academic Credit will have additional assignments inclusive of Research Papers, Articles for Publication and Active Learning projects. To register for this course please contact Ms. Debra Mims at debra.mims@saintleo.edu .

Terrorism in Israel
June 22-30, 2012

Saint Leo University is pleased to announce that The Graduate School of Criminal Justice in association with Security Solutions International (SSI), will be offering an exciting new course being held in Israel from June 22 – 30, 2012.

Based on what US Homeland Security needs to know, the training is focused on the most important areas of Homeland Security:

- Public safety: large-scale events, shopping and retail, public transportation
- Transportation: ports, airports, train and bus stations
- Critical infrastructure
- Schools
- Government buildings

In addition, participants learn from Israeli experts on such subjects as Krav Maga (Israeli martial arts), suicide terror - VBIEDs, protecting dignitaries against terror and more.

Numerous case studies on past attacks including busses and shopping malls will be presented. All for only $4,400 - and everything is included (*Airfares included are from EWR-TLV) Special price for Saint Leo University is $4,000.00 all inclusive from Newark back to Newark.

If interested, please contact debra.mims@saintleo.edu by April 13, 2012

Arts & Entertainment

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo:

Has the American Film Industry gone too far?

By Brooke King
Entertainment Editor

Whether you are aware or not, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* was the first of a trilogy of novels by the late Swedish writer Stieg Larsson, which has now become a worldwide publishing phenomenon, and sparked a series of international films based on the trilogy.

Unfortunately, the novel series' growing popularity, along with the international film trilogy's popularity, gained interest within the United States. With a high grossing novel and film trilogy, Larsson's brilliant murder mystery series claimed the attention of the American Film Industry. It was not long after that Sony and Columbia Pictures teamed up and had a newly revised screenplay version of the first novel.

As a die-hard fan of the novel series and a big fan of the foreign film series, which features actress Noomi Rapace (*Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*), I was very skeptical as to how and who they would cast for the main roles in the American version. I also questioned what, if anything, would be different from the original film version of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, or the book for that matter. The original foreign film series was actually quite accurate to the Larsson's millennium series, which is a rarity when it comes to film version of novels. Yet, with my skepticism aside, I sat down to watch the Americanized version of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. The story follows Mikael Blomkvist(Daniel Craig), a journalist and co-owner of the Millennium magazine, who is hiding out from a libel suit he has just lost against crooked businessman Hans-Erik Wennerström. Meanwhile,

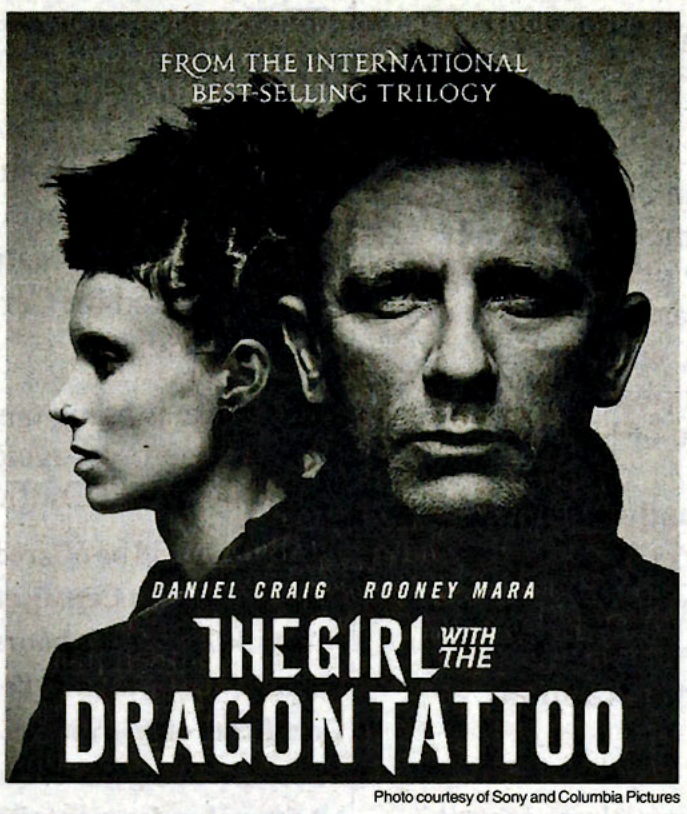

Photo courtesy of Sony and Columbia Pictures

Lisbeth Salander (Rooney Mara), a tattooed punk rock researcher and computer hacker, has been hired to compiled an extensive background check on Blomkvist. Blomkvist is being hired by Swedish magnate, Henrik Vanger (Christopher Plummer) to investigate a murder that happened over 40 years ago.

In exchange for information that would convict Wennerström, Blomkvist agrees to investigate the disappearance and possible murder of Henrik's grandniece, Harriet, who was 17 at the time she disappeared. While searching for any kind of evidence he could find, Blomkvist discovers a notebook containing information that may help explain Harriet's disappearance.Salander, who is under state legal guardianship because she has been diagnosed with some sort of mental incompetency, is appointed a new guardian, lawyer Nils Bjurman (Yorick van Wageningen). He takes control of Salander's finances and though less graphic then the international version, rapes her. Narrowly escaping his clutches, she stuns him, blackmails him by videotaping the rape, and regains control of her life, but with a hefty price.

Blomkvist hires Salander to so that she can investigate the notebook's content. She along with Blomkvist uncover a connection to a series of murders that occurred from the late 1940s to the mid 1960s. Throughout the American version of the film, many small details are left out. However, Henrik's brother Harald (Per Myrberg) identifies Martin, Harriet's brother (Stellan Skarsgård),are still named as a possible suspects in the murder. Meanwhile, Salander and Blomkvist's relationship becomes more developed and it is increasingly clear that there is more to Harriet's disappearance then what meets the eye. Their investigation brings them close to the secrets and lies of the rich and powerful Vanger Dynasty. Tangled in a web of secrecy and cover-ups, Blomkvist and Salander must come together and fight for their very lives.

The new film stays somewhat close to the book and the foreign film, yet Craig and Rooney bring their own spin to this thrilling story. The cinematography, while darker and more abstract than the foreign version, brings a whole new element that creates the mystery surrounding the plot. The Swedish screen version of *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*, directed by Niels Arden Oplev, felt as though it was a long version of a TV show. Yet, David Fincher's adaptation of the film is equally long and disconnected. However, this may in part be due to Larsson's own clumsy narrative style that leaves the reader, at some points, quite confused as to the plotline. To be sure, both movies follow this narrowing confusion, as Fincher's adaptation boldly stays true to the vivid details of the book, so is not to make die-hard fans, like myself, from rioting about any extreme changes in plotline.

The film is rated R and has a lot of graphic material, including sex, violence, and abuse. Yet, for all its suggestive material, it is nowhere as graphic as the foreign film or the novel itself. With all the artistic abstract cinematography that Fincher uses in the film to create an impressive and ambitious commercial version of Larsson's novel, the story starts to fade as soon as the credits begin to run, making me and other die-hard fans of the millennium trilogy wonder if the American Film Industry should have even bothered to make an adaptation at all. However, the girl with the dragon tattoo in Fincher's version, with her multiple body piercings that endures pain, suffering, and somewhat rebel redemption throughout the film, lingers in your mind long after you have walked out of the movie theater.

Weekend Jams

By Barron Baszto
Staff Writer

1. "Call Me Maybe"
   Carley Rae Jepsen
   Call Me Maybe – Single
2. "Levels (Skrillex Remix)"
   Avicii
   Levels Remixes - EP
3. "We Are Young" ft. Janelle Monae
   Fun.
   We Are Young
4. "Somebody that I Used to Know" ft. Kimbra
   Gotye
   Making Mirrors
5. "I Will Follow You Intothe Dark"
   Death Cab for Cutie
   The Plans
6. "Jasey Rae"
   All Time Low
   Put Up or Shut Up
7. "Made In America"
   Toby Keith
   Clancy's Tavern
8. "A Woman Like You"
   Lee Brice
   Woman Like You - Single
9. "Stereo Hearts" ft. Adam Levine
   Gym Class Heroes
   The Papercut Chronicles II
10. "Glad You Came"
    The Wanted
    Glad You Came- Single

Act of Valor : a military film in a class of its own

By Austin Healey
Staff Writer

Act of Valor is easily the most realistic combat film ever produced – nothing compares. The movie centers on a sequence of missions conducted by one team of the elite forces of the United States, the best of the best, the Navy SEALs.

To execute this film, directors Mike McCoy and Scott Waugh employed active duty Navy SEALs, incorporated real battle strategies, live fire rounds, and utilized current technology and weaponry in use today. Although the plot itself is not a reenactment of real events, writer Kurt Johnstad fabricated the plot from five true stories from the Navy SEALs.

Act of Valor begins in the Philippines with a disturbing scene, highlighting the brutally heartless tactics of modern terrorists. A suicide bomber infiltrates a school with an ice cream truck, as the children end their school day. The United States ambassador has arrived to pick up his son. As they go to buy some ice cream, the truck explodes, slaughtering dozens of children, the ambassador and his son, and a security guard. Soon after, we shift to South America. A CIA operative is captured by the target she has been tracking, a man called Christo. Afterwards, a particular SEAL team is called to rescue her as she is being tortured into releasing every bit of intel her captors could use. Team leader and soon-to-be father, Lieutenant Rorke prepares his team for the mission, as they spend their final night before deployment relaxing on the beach with their families and friends.

The following night, the seven-man team HALO jumps into the jungle just outside the enemy camp. At dawn, the team swiftly and stealthily mobilizes, giving a true understanding of *military precision* as enemy targets (sometimes called squares, stemming from some modern weapons placing a square over targets) are detected, communicated, and eliminated one by one in seconds. Additionally, two small unit riverine craft are dropped down-river, heading towards the camp for pick up and extra support. With a sniper and spotter and intel from a UAV for protection and warning, the remaining five men move inbound to successfully rescue the CIA operative without her releasing any information, although has been viciously tortured. During the raid, an enemy cell phone is recovered as well. Unfortunately, one SEAL is severely injured after being shot in the eye as he rounded a corner; and enemy backup is on the way. The team is forced to drive away in an enemy truck and struggles to escape as enemy support trails behind them. As a result, the team must abandon their initial and secondary plans. The third plan is a difficult success and provides one of the best scenes in the film, as the riverine crafts rain countless rounds into the enemy trucks (and all live fire, no blanks).

After exploring the contents of the retrieved cell phone, a global terrorist plot is uncovered involving Christo and another target, known as Shabal. Christo's plans are revealed to the viewer as Christo convenes with Shabal in the Ukraine. The two are organizing an attack on multiple major cities in the U.S. using non-metallic suicide bombing vests, making the undetectable by and hidden under clothing, with a large explosion and ceramic balls blasting outward as if from a very large fragmentation grenade. Christo ends with stating that he must go into hiding, since he assumes the CIA knows of him, which greatly upsets Shabal.

With the military's new intel, the SEAL team is deployed to Somalia for reconnaissance, confirming Christo and Shabal's plot. This information leads them to an island off California, where several vests are obtained. Afterwards, Christo is discovered and captured on a yacht in the Pacific. He is interrogated and reveals that not all vests were captured on the island. He then informs the officer that several more vests and Shabal are already positioned to enter the U.S. from Mexico. As the plot goes on, a plan unfolds from the intel that they recover and the Navy Seals must endure a fight for their lives, from which few will survive.

So to conclude this review, I suggest seeing the film. *Act of Valor* is by far the closest film to real Navy SEAL combat. I have heard people criticize the acting, but question their comparison. These men have lived and performed the scenes multiple times in training and under real combat pressure. The best comparison we can make comes from video games and movies with actors and directors who have never lived it. I will believe these men over any actor, any day. However, I can admit the acting in non-military scenes was lacking for the SEALs. Also, finding a cell phone to uncover enemy plans was a little too cheesy. There is only one, short reconnaissance scene in the movie. A second, longer recon mission could have been used to reveal more than just a cell phone cop-out and would have offered a lot of suspense. Lastly, I definitely wish they fixed the ending. Overall, go watch *Act of Valor*. There is plenty of raw action and suspense, and you cannot get much more realistic, unless you record the real thing.

Hunger Games

By Danielle Cortes
Staff Writer

Imagine waking up in a world far in the future, where the main fear once a year is dying at the hands of other kids your age and younger. What if you had to worry that your much younger sister will soon have to enter her name in this great gamble of life and death?

The Hunger Games is the penance that the 12 districts of Panem must pay for their rebellion against the Capitol. Every year one male and one female is picked from each district and sent into a semi-gladiatorial completion that is televised. The people of each district are left on their own, abandoned in the wilderness to survive. After all is said and done, 24 people go in, but only one will come out alive.

In *The Hunger Games* we meet a young woman, Katniss "Kat" Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) whose main purpose in life is to make sure that her small family doesn't starve to death and hoping that she will not be the female tribute chosen to represent her district in the games. Katniss's younger sister, Primrose, has entered her name for the first time, now that she is of age and has had non-stop nightmares of being chosen. As luck would have it, Primrose is chosen, but before she makes it to the stage, Katniss comes forward and volunteers herself in order to save her sister. We follow Kat and her fellow team mate, Peeta Mallark (Josh Hutcherson), through the preparations of entering the arena and accepting that they most likely will not make it out alive. Some see this as a sign of bravery and others see it as the true tragedy that it has always been.

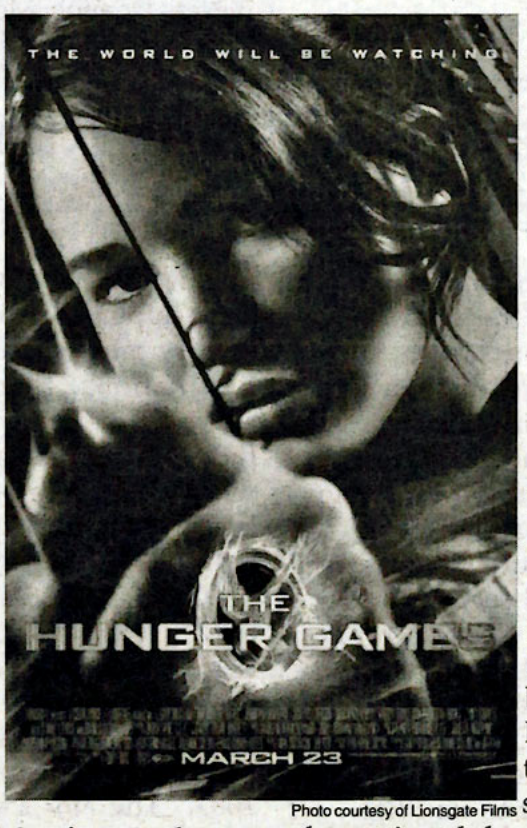

Photo courtesy of Lionsgate Films

Many fans of the book series said they enjoyed the action and the fact that the film stuck so close to the book. Of course, the fans of the series will always tell you that the novel *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins is always better. Many fans did not fail to state that there were pieces of the book that were left out, but the added scenes not from the book found a way to fill in the gaps. The action scenes during the games were amazing, as they kept you on the edge of your seat wondering what new destructive device will pop-up. However, it is not suggested that younger kids see this film due to some of the graphic depictions of death.

The all star cast included Lenny Kravitz as the only inner city dweller that Kat may be able to trust, Woody Harrelson as the alcoholic former champion of District 4, who coaches Kat and Peeta, Stanley Tucci, who plays the broadcasting host, and Donald Sutherland as President Snow. The movie leaves you wondering what will happen after this year's Hunger Games champion returns home. Overall, the film did great according to both critics and fans. The film also did great in the box office, with an opening weekend that had some individuals returning for second and third viewings.

Sports

QB Circus in the NFL: Tebow and Manning move

By Chad Wise
Sports Editor

Despite signing a five-year contract with the Indianapolis Colts prior to the 2011 season, Peyton Manning finds himself with a new team heading into 2012. Manning signed a new five-year deal with the Denver Broncos, ending one of the most interesting free agency sagas since Brett Favre came out of retirement.

Courtesy of Associated Press

Manning, one of the most successful quarterbacks to only play with one team, missed the entirety of last season after neck surgery and was released by the Colts in March.

The quarterback being replaced by Peyton Manning is Tim Tebow, who now finds himself in New York behind Mark Sanchez with the Jets. Tebow was traded, along with a seventh round draft pick in 2012, in exchange for a fourth and sixth round pick in 2012. Woody Johnson, owner of the Jets, stated that the reason for the trade was not to bring arguably the NFL's most popular player to the league's biggest market.

"Let me be really clear about this, we work for the fans and the fans want us to win games," Johnson told ESPN. "And our mission is to win games, pure and simple. We think that Tim Tebow has been a winner all his life."

Jets head coach Rex Ryan also said that Tebow "can do a lot of things besides being the backup quarterback," recalling his early days as the backup at the University of Florida.

The 2012 NFL Draft will be held Apr. 26-28, before training camp opens in preparation of the 2012 season.

What happened to the Lightning?

By Andrew Levengood
Sports Editor

How did the Tampa Bay Lightning go from playoff contender, and what many viewed as a Stanley Cup contender this pre-season, to a team 9 points out of the last playoff spot on March 26?

The answer has a few parts, first the Lightning do not have a goaltender in the top 30 Goals Against Average Leaders or GAA but St. Louis, Boston, Minnesota, Colorado, Vancouver, and New Jersey all have two goalies in the top 30 GAA.

The Lightning's two goalies this year rank at 39 (Mathieu Garon) and dead last 46 (Dwayne Roloson). Most Hockey analysts would argue Goalies win games, with these averages is a surprise the Lightning have done as well as they have.

The sole shining point for the Lightning this year is NHL goals leader Steven Stamkos, who has exploded after receiving a huge 5 year contract in the offseason.

Another huge hit is the continuing decline of Vinny Lecavalier whose goals per season have dropped drastically from his 52 goal year in 2006-2007 and his 40 goal season in 2007-2008. The Lightning accepted their downfall at this year's trade deadline by moving players Dominic Moore, Pavel Kubina, and Steve Downie.

But hope is not lost for the Bolts future, General Manager Steve Yzerman acquired a glutton of pieces that can help the Lightning retool instead of rebuild. In sending prospect Carter Ashton to Toronto Yzerman acquired defenseman Keith Aulie, a 22 year old defensemen who could potentially lead the Bolts blue line next season alongside veterans Victor Hedman , Eric Brewer, and Mathias Ohlund.

In addition Yzerman acquired 25 year old defensemen Brian Lee from Ottawa and veteran Mike Commodore from Detroit. Yzerman also stockpiled early draft choices for the next draft with 2 first round picks and a minimum of 3 second round picks with the possibility of 4 (depending on the teams outcome).

The Bolts collapse this season was mainly due to a mix of the wrong parts, an old goalie who finally fell apart, an aging defense, and a sputtering offense that didn't live up to its potential. All of these issues can be fixed for next season, the old goalie's contract is up and the defense was completely revamped at the deadline.

This offseason Yzerman has two things to complete: get a goalie and find more compliments to Steven Stamkos. If he can acquire both of those assets look for the Lightning to be right on track to be in the playoffs and maybe the Stanley Cup in the near future.

Louisville, Ohio State, Kentucky and Kansas punch tickets to NCAA Final Four tournament

Online Editor
Taylor McGillis

The field for this weekend's Final Four in New Orleans has been set after some entertaining games in this past weekend's Elite Eight. In the West Regional Final Louisville (30-9) knocked off Florida to advance to the Final Four for the ninth time in school history and its first since 2005. The Big East champions have now won eight games in a row with their last loss coming Mach 3 against Syracuse. Rick Pitino's squad beat No. 1 seed Michigan State on Mach 22 to advance to the Elite Eight, then beat the No. 7 seed Florida Gators to earn their trip to the Final Four. The Cardinals will face off against in-state rival Kentucky in the national semi-finals on March 31. The two teams did play each other in Lexington back in December and the Wildcats got the better of that game beating Louisville 69-62.

In the South Region the No. 1 overall seed in the tournament, Kentucky (36-2), continued to show their dominance, trouncing Baylor 82-70 in a game that was not as close as the score reveals. Prior to its Elite Eight matchup with Baylor, Kentucky beat Indiana 102-90 (Indiana is one of two teams to beat Kentucky this year). Kentucky has now won all four of their NCAA tournament games this year by double digits, the only team in the tournament to do so thus far. Kentucky is making their 15th Final Four appearance in school history and seeking their first national championship since 1998. Kentucky will face off against Louisville, which the team beat back in December, in the national semi-final.

Ohio State (31-7) beat Syracuse in the East Regional Final to advance to the Final Four for the 12th time in school history and the program's first since 2007. The No. 2 seeded Buckeyes beat Wisconsin in the Sweet 16 before beating No. 1 seed Syracuse 77-70 to advance to the Final four. The Buckeyes will play Kansas in the national semi-final on Mar. 31 in New Orleans.

In the Midwest Regional Final Kansas upended No. 1 seed North Carolina to advance to their 14th Final Four in school history (their most recent being in 2008 when they won the title). The Jayhawks (31-6) beat North Carolina 80-67 in one of the more entertaining games of the NCAA tournament.

This year's Final Four in New Orleans consists of four perennial powerhouse programs with a combined 46 Final Four appearances along with four seasoned college basketball coaches, all of whom have experience coaching in the Final Four. Both semi-final matchups will be played on Mar. 31 with Kentucky-Louisville set to tip off at 6:09pm and Kansas-Ohio State set for 8:49pm.